

So the National Institutes of Health gets my porker of the week award this week.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL POWER OF IRS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, only the IRS can conduct an audit of your financial records without a warrant. Only the IRS can levy penalties without a court order. Only the IRS can seize your bank account without a judgment. Only the IRS can actually take your home, take your home, without due process.

Now, if that is not enough to tax your 1040, check this out: When you decide to fight this pack of bullies, you go to court, Tax Court, with the IRS; you are considered guilty and have to prove yourself innocent.

Beam me up. Ladies and gentlemen, there is only one reason for the unconstitutional power of the Internal Revenue Service: The Congress of the United States of America. Think about it. I yield back the balance of these taxes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind people in the gallery they should not express approval or disapproval during the proceedings.

GOVERNMENT DOES NOT NEED ANOTHER NEW BUILDING

(Mr. SANFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SANFORD. Madam Speaker, late last night we had the debate on an amendment that I proposed to prevent the construction of yet another Washington office building, this one being \$40 million and in size 350,000 square feet. For those of my colleagues who were wisely asleep at the hour, I would say it still makes a lot of sense for a couple reasons.

First, GSA already controls 644 million square feet of office space in the United States. That is the equivalent of all the office space in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Houston combined. Do we need another office building?

Second, even if it is the right thing to do, now is not the right time to do it. That is why the National Capital Planning Commission said "No, don't do it, wait until after the farm bill."

Third, it is what the budget asks for.

Fourth, it is what National Taxpayers Union and Citizens for a Sound Economy think to be a good idea.

CONGRESS SHOULD BE MORE FAMILY FRIENDLY

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROEMER. Madam Speaker, last night we worked here in the House of Representatives well past midnight, and last night is no different from any other night from January 4, when we went into session. Fifty-four percent of the time we have adjourned after 9 o'clock at night since January 4.

Now, for the first 3 months we expected that. We knew working on the contract we would have late nights. But Speaker GINGRICH said on his first day here on the floor, right behind me, "We are going to set schedules we stick to so families can count on time together."

Now, Madam Speaker, the only time we see our families is when we take a picture of them out of our wallets and look at the frayed pictures.

I think that we need predictable schedules. We want to work hard. We have been in more than 300 hours over last year at this time. We need predictability. Let us have one night a week that we are out by 6 p.m. and have it predictable. Let us roll votes, and let us make sure we come in and start work at 8 o'clock in the morning for 1 minutes. I think that is the hour that America starts to work.

THE ISTOOK, MCINTOSH, AND ERHLICH AMENDMENT

(Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of efforts to reform our grant-making process—specifically, the Istook, McIntosh, and Ehrlich legislation.

I join my colleagues in believing that we engage in a dangerous enterprise when Government selectively subsidizes particular interests and lobbying organizations. It raises a question about the fundamental integrity and impartiality of Government.

What this legislation addresses is the fact that certain groups have simultaneously enjoyed the advantages of exemption from tax payments and the statutory right to spend an unlimited amount on lobbying Congress. This is wrong and has led to a mistrust of Government by the American people.

Ordinary citizens do not enjoy all of these benefits simultaneously and this kind of preferential treatment can only serve to maximize the influence and power of certain privileged lobbying groups at the expense of the people we were elected to serve. In my view, organizations should have to choose between being tax-exempt, self-interested lobbying organizations or administrators of Federal grants.

TRICKLE-DOWN ALREADY PROVEN UNWORKABLE

(Mr. KLINK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINK. Madam Speaker, back in the 1980's Republican Ronald Reagan told us decrease taxes for the wealthy, investment will go up, wealth will trickle down, America will prosper.

The wealthy did keep more. They invested it overseas and our jobs followed. Industrial America began to disappear.

Just over a decade later, they are at it again, saying decrease taxes for the wealthy, \$245 billion, pay for it by cutting Medicare \$270 billion, by cutting Medicaid \$170 billion; let's cut back school lunches, student loans, WIC, Head Start.

Madam Speaker, fool America once, shame on you. Fool us twice, shame on America. Only in Washington, DC, could people on the other side of the aisle say they are saving Medicare by cutting \$270 billion out of it.

It reminds me again of the officer in Vietnam who said we saved the village by burning it to the ground. The Republicans are going to save Medicare and Medicaid by burning that to the ground, and our senior citizens are going to be the victims.

PRIVATIZATION SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED

(Mr. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I encourage all of my fellow Nebraskans to call and write often. I listen to what they have to say, and I am often persuaded by what they write.

Last week I received this postcard, which perhaps is the most persuasive that I have ever received. In this bag, Madam Speaker, is a note from a constituent regarding the privatization of the post office. This note was saying why we should not privatize the post office. But you see, this note came in what the post office calls as body bag. It comes with discarded mail, and they put it in here and say "We care."

Well, it is quite ironic that this kind of mail would come in this form and fashion, and the message in it would be not to privatize the post office.

Madam Speaker, in light of this, I want to encourage the continued privatization ideas that are coming forth in the 104th Congress. I want to continue to expand and look beyond at how we can make this a more efficient, a more better run Government.

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MEDISCARE

(Mrs. SCHROEDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)